

## THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

## A Broad View.

The elections are over. The members of the new Township government are decided upon, and the appropriations are voted. A majority of the old Township Committee will be members of the new Board. The policy to be adopted in the use of the money voted must soon be decided upon. Where shall it be spent? How shall it be used? Doubtless the old members will be inclined to proceed upon the old lines, such policy having proved satisfactory in the past. Yet each year necessarily involves changes. There are many neighborhoods—Glen Ridge, Brookdale, Morris Neighborhood, Silver Lake, Fairview, Franklin Hill, Montgomery and Watessing. Each has its wants: gas, water, fire apparatus, hard roads, sidewalks, crosswalks, police supervision. How can these be supplied?

It is natural that each neighborhood should be aware of its own needs, and forget the wants of other districts. It is natural that each should seek representation upon the Committee, so as to make its appeals effective. The answer to these appeals has been that the interest of the whole town is the interest of all. That is a broad view. Improvements must begin at the center of population. Bad pavements and sidewalks, lack of water, gas, and facilities for the extinguishment of fires, must effectively prevent the growth of the town. The neighborhoods have been told to wait. They have waited. Instructed by their enlightened neighbors at the center, they have learned patience and generosity. They have taken a broad view of the case.

The Center is now provided with good roads, sidewalks, gas, and the other necessities. The suburbs would like some of these good things themselves. They have been partially looked after, thanks to the generosity of the Committee, but they would like more. The Center is now asked to show self-denial; to take a broad view; to realize that life is measured by the signs displayed at the extremities; in a word to push improvements out into the suburbs where alone there can be growth and activity in real estate. Some are disposed to grumble at this; to declare that Brookdale is getting too much, Glen Ridge is never satisfied, Montgomery is always demanding more, etc., etc. Well, that view is not very broad. East of the canal is a fine district which would make excellent ground for small houses. They are needed. They could be rented if a railroad depot, roads, sidewalks, and other Township facilities were promptly furnished. A bridge at the foot of Beach street would help very much, if everybody would take a broad view of the matter. At Glen Ridge and on to the north is good land for building purposes. It ought to receive proper consideration by those who are careful for the whole Township.

The firemen have done a good work. The dread of fires at the Center is now but a memory. Abundant experience has shown how quickly the most dangerous fires can be extinguished. By appropriations and generous subscriptions, the people have shown their appreciation of the companies. Yet it is not the only interest in the Township, nor should it have a predominating influence. Because men are firemen they are not the less citizens. Because they are members of a particular company they are not the less members of the whole fire department.

A broad view of Committee work would make it free from the desire of personal gain. However there will be no more bills for sub-committee services.

It is not a large view of Township matters to expect the public to put gas-lamps along property where only turnips and potatoes are likely to be raised for many years, or to wait like Macawber for someone to turn up with money to buy land. Houses are needed—a hundred or more to meet present demands. Private individuals ought to wait for the public, nor the public for those who are disposed to make private improvements. Both should act together.

What has become of the Township Clerk? He used to send notices all over the town. This year no notice of election, as far as ascertained, was posted in District No. 2. For that matter there was no notice of the annual meeting for appropriations, nor of the Republican and Democratic primaries. Give everybody a fair chance to express his opinion, and then let a hall be provided for voters large enough to accommodate all, or let the polls at primaries be kept open all day. In many cases it is practically an election.

## Death of an Honored Educator.

The Hon. Oliver Pillsbury, who died at his home in Concord, N. H., Wednesday, Feb. 23d, at the age of 71 years, was well known in this State as one of the early and most efficient educators of New Jersey. He presided over the first convention held at Trenton for the adoption of free public schools in this State. He came here in 1839 and opened a tuition school, following the vocation of private school teacher for eight years, during the last six of which he was teacher of the academy at Bound Brook. It was at Bound Brook that he found his wife, Miss Matilda Nevins, who died in 1847, leaving a young daughter—their only child—who grew to a beautiful womanhood and was married, but died two years later. Mr. Pillsbury was a native of Hemenway, N. H., and after returning to his native State, held many important offices of public trust, serving on the Board of Education at Concord, as a member of the State Council, and as a member of the Legislature. In 1869 he was appointed Insurance Commissioner for the State of New Hampshire, which office he held with marked ability until the time of his death being it is said, the oldest Insurance Commissioner, in point of continuous service, in the country. He belonged to a well known family, a member of which, we believe, is the celebrated flour manufacturer in Minnesota.

T. H.

## Our Future Water Supply.

At a monthly meeting of the Passaic City Citizens' Improvement Association, a paper was read by the Secretary, Mr. Wm. Kent, concerning a supply of pure water for the cities and towns of Northern New Jersey, based upon a recommendation of Governor Green in his recent message. After calling attention to the natural water supply attainable by means of the Passaic watershed, Mr. Kent says:

If the condition of the water supply of the cities of northern New Jersey, and the needs of their population warranted such an investigation as that made by the State Geologist in 1876, still more is it now worthy of consideration when the water has become more impure, and when population is increasing at a still more rapid rate. The increase of population of New York City within the past ten years, the rapid building up of the whole surface of Manhattan Island, the already overcrowded condition of the elevated railroads, and of the cars of the Brooklyn Bridge, with no hope that this overcrowding can ever be relieved, for before the projected underground and areole roads can be finished, the population will have increased so as to crowd them also, render it likely that inside of ten years the city will be so full of people that there will not be room for any more south of the Harlem river. The increasing importance of New York City as the commercial center of the continent, the position already taken as the largest manufacturing city, distancing Philadelphia which held that position previous to the last census, makes it probable that within the life of many here present the population of New York City, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Hoboken and other immediate environs will equal the present population of London. As all the available ground in the immediate vicinity of New York will then be filled up, the most desirable situation for residence will be that part of New Jersey between the city of Paterson on the north and Plainfield on the south, and between the eastern slope of the first mountain and the Hudson River.

It will not be many years before there will be one or more bridges across the Hudson River, opposite New York. At the last meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Mr. Gustave Lindenthal, an eminent bridge engineer, presented detailed plans of a six-track railway bridge across the river; other engineers have not the slightest doubt of its feasibility and there is a strong promise that it will be soon begun. When this bridge or other bridges are built, and the tunnel completed, which also will no doubt be done, there will be such an impetus given to the growth of population on this side of the river, as but few who have not looked into the problem can form any conception. It will not be long before the section spoken of will contain the majority of the population of the State of New Jersey.

The future increased growth of this section of the State being assured the question of a pure water supply is one of immediate importance not only to those residing here, but to the millions of others who are yet to come. Although we have at our doors a watershed of 750 square miles, capable of supplying 100 gallons per day to each person in a population of four millions, yet that supply is so far from being unlimited that it is already the declared purpose of a private syndicate or corporation to obtain the absolute ownership of the whole of it. They intend to monopolize or corner the whole available water supply of a population which will soon be numbered by the million. Will the people of New Jersey permit this gigantic corner to be accomplished? I think not, if they are awakened to the importance of the matter to themselves and to their posterity. Governor Green has well said in his message, "It is high time that the people took steps to secure whatever interest they may now need and whatever rights they may hereafter require." It is time for the people to

act, and demand of the Legislature that it at once pass laws which shall make it forever impossible that any private individual or corporation can secure a monopoly or even a vested interest in the supply of water freely by Providence, to the benefit of the whole people. It is time that the State at once, exercising its right of eminent domain, to condemn to the public use all the water privileges in the State, granting, however, on reasonable terms to individuals or corporations, the rights to use the water power of the State for the purpose of power or for navigation, only so long as such right to use does not curtail or hinder the free use of all the water needed by the people for household purposes. Let the State pay, of course a fair compensation, to be assessed by proper processes of law, for the taking of such vested rights as the Morris Canal may have to the water for canal purposes, to the Paterson, Dundee or other water companies, for their rights to the power of the water falls, whenever the water may be taken from these companies and used to supply the cities, but such compensation must be based on the value of the water to these companies for canal or power purposes only and never on any imaginary or prospective value as drinking water.

I will go further, and suggest that as a sound financial measure, the State should purchase all the land necessary for creating artificial reservoirs in the valleys where these are necessary for the damming of the lakes or lowering their outlets, and even for building distributing reservoirs on the eastern slope of the first mountain, or elsewhere, wherever a properly chosen commission of engineers, may select as best adapted for the purpose, for building and maintaining the necessary plant for pumping water into these reservoirs. Let the cities then draw from these reservoirs the amount of water needed for their population, paying to the State in proportion to amount of water drawn by each, sufficient to pay the interest on the State bonds issued for the work and to create a sinking fund for the eventual redemption of the bonds. With the present financial condition of the State such bonds need not bear over three per cent interest. The result would be that the State would soon own free of debt one of the best water works systems in the world, and the people of the cities would have a pure water supply at the cheapest possible rate.

The City of New York owes its greatness primarily to the building of the Erie Canal—the most creditable piece of work ever done by the State of New York. That canal has made New York State the richest one of the United States, and has cheapened the price of wheat to all New England and to Europe. The State system of water works of the State of New Jersey will be an equally beneficial work for the future City of New Jersey, and if a people can ask a greater boon than the gift of cheap bread, it is that of pure water to drink free of cost.

## A Desperate Affair.

A. A. Van Cleave, living at 121 East 7th Street, New York, writes us: "I have struggled for the past two years with a severe case of dyspepsia, aggravated by an attack of malaria. The struggle was a desperate one. After taking several bottles of Paxine I feel that I have conquered these distressing complaints. My system was completely run down, and I did not know a peaceful moment until I heard of and used Paxine; the effect was simply wonderful. For the benefit which I have received from that delightful remedy I know not how to thank you."

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STOCKS, by former New York Standard (discontinued) this year, 5,023,762.75

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Residence, Elm St., Bloomfield.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, ETC., TAKEN.

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An Ordinance

RELATING TO STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of

the Township of Bloomfield as follows:

Sec. 1. The owner, occupant or other person

having the charge of each and every dwelling

house, store or other building or lot or lots of

ground, shall within one hour after every fall of

snow, or after the formation of any ice, upon the

side walk in front thereof, cause the said snow

or ice to be removed, or shall have been perfectly

covered with sand or ashes) to be entirely removed

from the side walk in front thereof, under the

penalty of three dollars for every such

neglect, to be forfeited and paid by the said owner,

occupant or person having charge thereof, severally

and respectively; provided that this section

shall not apply to any sidewalk which is a

part of the time have been laid either to the whole

width or a part thereof, with flagging, cement, concrete

plank or boards.

EDWARD F. FARRAND,

Township Clerk.

March 15, 1888.

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